

**Weekly Status & Information Report:  
Week of January 28 - February 1, 2008**

1. **Passport Changes:** New passport fees and processes are effective February 1. Besides the traditional passport books, smaller passport cards are now available. Passport cards may be used for land and sea travel (not air travel) to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean only. See [travel.state.gov/passport](http://travel.state.gov/passport) for details and go to the City's web page, [www.takomaparkmd.gov/admin/passports.html](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/admin/passports.html) for details on applying for a passport at the City of Takoma Park. *(Deputy City Manager)*
2. **New Ride-On Stop Location (Ward 5):** City staff met with Ride-On personnel this week and requested a new Ride-On stop location at the corner store on Flower and Erie Avenues. It is expected that the stop will be installed in the next few weeks. *(Housing and Community Development)*
3. **Takoma Park Elementary School Addition:** The schematic design for the Takoma Park Elementary School Addition will be presented to the Montgomery County School Board on February 5th. The brochure of the schematic design may be viewed at: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/construction/projects/Docs/TPESPreliminaryPlans.pdf>. It is expected that the site plans will be presented to the City Council in March. *(Housing and Community Development)*
4. **Landlord-Tenant Staff Attends Training:** Landlord-Tenant Mediation Specialist Moses A. Wilds, Jr. and Housing Specialist Jean Kerr attended a training on Landlord-Tenant Law in Maryland this past week. The seminar focused on issues that landlords face as owners of rental properties and covered such topics as lease violations, tenants abandoning the premises, the eviction process and enforcing judgments. *(Housing and Community Development)*
5. **Tenant Meeting Held - Takoma Overlook (Ward 6):** Community Organizer Rozanne Look and DHCD staff Linda Walker attended a meeting sponsored by the tenant association on Thursday evening, January 30 at Takoma Overlook 7333 New Hampshire Avenue. The purpose of the meeting was to receive an update from developer, Tenacity Group, who now owns both towers in the complex. One of the towers is scheduled to be converted to condominiums and the other, according to the current plan, will remain as rental. Tenacity CEO and Partner, Mike Postal and Eric Bolog affirmed their intentions to not displace any tenant. Details of the plan and an agreement still need to be finalized with Montgomery County, the City of Takoma Park and the tenant association before the developer can move forward. *(Housing and Community Development)*
6. **When School is Out:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department took 35 students grades K - 5 to the Maryland Science Center on Tuesday, January 22 for a "Fun Day" program (programming offered on those days when kids are out of school). The children got to experience the museum through hands-on exhibits, science demonstrations and an IMAX movie. The next Fun Day is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12th. We're going Ice Skating and to Jeeps. *(Recreation)*
7. **Peer Mediation Program:** Gregory Clark, the Assistant Director, met with Safe Takoma representatives to discuss the possibility of running a peer mediation program for Takoma Park teens. Options discussed include a small summer program, an after school or weekend program. More details to come. *(Recreation)*
8. **The Chief and Officers in Meetings:**
  - On January 29, Chief Ricucci met with Mayor Williams, Ward 3 Councilmember Dan

Robinson, and citizens of the Sycamore neighborhood to discuss crime prevention and neighborhood safety.

- On January 30, members of the Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU) and Criminal Investigations Division (CID) arrested the suspect responsible for the assault and attempted abduction that occurred on January 29, 2008.
- On January 30 and 31, Chief Ricucci attended the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Advisory Committee Meeting in Alexandria, Virginia, to discuss developing a best practices guide on all aspects of internal affairs operations. The project is entitled "Linking Local Law Enforcement Internal Affairs Practices and Community Trust Building." Its intention is to look closely at the continuum of internal affairs practices, including (1) citizen complaint receipt, (2) investigations and case tracking/transparency, accountability, discretion, (3) early warning systems (EWS), (4) case outcomes, (5) office of professional standards (OPS) models and (6) citizen, governing body, department satisfaction levels. This is a national project for which the Chief was selected to participate.
- On January 31, Capt. Coursey attended the Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting. He also attended the Governor's Office Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) CSAFE Violence Reduction Initiative (VRI) Grant Training in Annapolis, Maryland. (*Police*)

#### **9. Officers in Training:**

- On January 28, various officers and civilian personnel attended Computer Aided Dispatch training in Germantown, Maryland.
- From January 28 through February 1, Cpl. Wolff, Pfc. Mueller and Pfc. Smith attended training entitled "Police and Correctional Field Training Program" in Sykesville, Maryland.
- On January 29, Pfc. Black and Pfc. Barber attended training entitled "Concealment Techniques and Counter Surveillance" in Sykesville, Maryland. (*Police*)

**10. Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 64 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, two (2) vehicle impounds and one (1) DUI arrest. (*Police*)

**11. The Newsletter:** The February issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter is out and should have been delivered to residents this week. It is also available for viewing on the city website at the following URL: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/news/newsletter/2008/feb08.pdf>. (*CityTV*)

**12.** City TV staff have been busy covering community events. The recent Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, "Living The Dream" will start airing on City TV on February 4 at 11:00 a.m. It will be available for on-demand viewing on the city website early next week as well. (*CityTV*)

**13. "Deja Vu":** City TV starts a new series this month "Deja Vu: Takoma Music Revisited". This will feature musical performances from our archives of festivals. Check the city website at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable) for details. This month we're sampling some music from 2005. (*CityTV*)